29th January 1934]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the order of the Government of India, when the Government compel their officers to retire, is it not necessary that they should be given full salary?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I think I have already answered that question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Why should not the Government of Madras ask those persons who have put in 25 years of service and more to retire and employ juniors?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I must ask for notice of the question."

Change of the designation of Lady Medical Officers into Women Medical Officers.

* 512 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the recent change in the designation of Lady Medical Officers into Woman Assistant Surgeon, Woman Apothecary and Woman Sub-Assistant Surgeon, the term 'woman' being substituted for the term 'Lady' previously in use;

(*b*) if so, for what reason has this change been effected;

(*c*) whether similar changes were effected in other services, for instance, Educational;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that several lady doctors have made representations to their respective heads of departments; and

(*e*) whether there is any intention on the part of Government to restore the appellation hitherto in use?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes. The change in the designation follows the use of the term 'woman' in the statutory rules relating to the service.

(*c*) The term 'woman' and women's branch are used in the statutory rules relating to the Madras Educational Service also.

(*d*) No; only one complaint was received by the Surgeon-General from the woman apothecary attached to the Municipal Women and Children's Dispensary at Vaniyambadi.

(*e*) No. The Government see no objection whatever to the use of the terms 'woman assistant surgeon,' 'woman apothecary' and 'woman sub-assistant surgeon.'

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"May I know if the Government are aware that the term 'women' is resented by the lady officers in Government service?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"No, Sir; the Government are not aware of it."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Why is there the necessity to add the appellation of sex along with the designation?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"For administrative convenience."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the word 'lady' sounds better than the word 'woman' and is more respectable?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"A lady remains a lady whatever her official designation may be."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"May I know whether the sex of the officer can be entirely omitted?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"It is necessary to retain it for administrative convenience."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"Will the Government reconsider the question of restoring the lady to her sex?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"As there is no category of 'gentlemen assistant surgeons,' it is not necessary to have one of 'lady assistant surgeons'."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"Is not the word 'lady' retained in the designation of officers in some departments of Government?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"I think that in the Educational Department also they are called 'women'."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"Are they called 'ladies' or 'women'?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"They are called 'women'."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I know whether the term 'man' precedes the designation of a male officer?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"Yes; there is a 'men's branch' in some of the services."

Change of designation of 'Lady Apothecary' and 'Lady Assistant Surgeon.'

* 513 Q.—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the designations 'Lady Apothecary' and 'Lady Assistant Surgeon' have been changed into 'woman apothecary' and 'woman assistant surgeon'; if so, the reasons for this change; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the diploma obtained by lady apothecaries is styled as 'Lady Apothecary' examination?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 512.

(b) No.

Countersignature of medical certificates issued to non-gazetted Government servants.

* 514 Q.—B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any order directing the discontinuance of the practice under which medical certificates granted to a non-gazetted Government servant in superior service by a registered medical practitioner, recommending the grant of leave or extension of leave, were sent to District Medical Officers for countersignature;